

Honours Language Arts Program (HLA PROGRAM) **Honours Social Studies Program (HSS Program)**

PROGRAM GOALS: HLA is for students especially gifted in reading and writing. Students taking HLA are well prepared for Honours English high school programs such as Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate Programs.

- In our program, students will read extensively, analyze critically, and pursue advanced proficiency in reading and writing.
- Our focus is on creativity, the development of tone, the writer's voice, and in-depth literary analysis.
- Honours course work is challenging and requires both academic aptitude and the ability to work independently.

PROGRAM GOALS: HSS is a program that enhances the regular curriculum. Students will have the chance to create independent or small group projects that focus on a deeper understanding of Canadian history and how Canada became the country it is today. Students will have the opportunity to debate and create written responses based on a variety of sources and issues throughout the year. They will also be involved in elections that may be called during the school year. Through in-class and on-line discussions, students will discuss and expand on current events in Canada and around our world.

ADMISSION CRITERIA and APPLICATION PROCESS

Admission to the program is based on the following criteria:

1. The student will **write the program entrance multiple choice exam** based on Grades 6 & 7 curriculum skills-based learning outcomes and provide **a short, written sample** and achieve an excellent* score on both.
2. The student will have **demonstrated overall "Exemplary" achievement in English Language Arts and/or Social Studies** according to the most recent grade six report card.
3. **A teacher evaluation** must be completed by the students' grade 6 teacher, which is found on the St. Rose website, under the Registration documents and information page, under the About tab.
4. A printout of the student's **current PowerSchool report or report card** must be submitted to the office. A strong report **will indicate not only academic ability, but also strong organization and work habits.**

PROGRAM FORMAT AND EVALUATION

To be successful in HLA and HSS courses, students are expected to demonstrate the following characteristics:

1. Excellent independent and collaborative work habits
2. Ability to process rather than merely recite information
3. High-level thinking and organizational skills

CONTINUATION IN THE PROGRAM- ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

Once accepted into the HLA and/or HSS program(s), a student's continued enrollment in the program(s) the following year is *not guaranteed*. To continue in the HLA or HSS program, a student must reach "Proficiency" as a minimum standard and receive the recommendation of the HLA or HSS teacher to continue.

REMOVAL FROM THE PROGRAM

Students exhibiting behavior detrimental to their progress, or the progress of other students may be required to move from the Honours Language Arts Program to the regular program. A decision to have a student discontinue in the HLA and/or HSS program(s) would be made at the end of the school year.

*Overall exam results vary from year to year; admission to the program is based on the individual student's performance compared to the rest of the cohort writing.

Program Entrance Exam Dates: Each exam takes between 45 – 60 minutes; however, students may take up to 90 minutes (maximum) to write. All exams are written at St. Rose School

Thursday, March 6 (2:00 p.m. start), or Saturday, March 8 (9:00 a.m. start)

Students may write one or both entrance exams on any exam date. Please complete the [Exam Sign-up request form](#)